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The modes of preserving pileate fungi without loss of their natural colors are reviewed by Lutz in the December *Bulletin de la Société Mycologique de France*.

Heft 9 of Schimper's *Botanische Mittheilungen aus den Tropen* consists of Alfred Möller's studies on Brazilian phycomycetous and ascomycetous fungi, and is fully and well illustrated.

No. 44 of the *Korrespondenzblatt des Naturforscher-Vereins zu Riga* contains a list of the twelve truffles occurring in the Baltic district.

In No. 8 of his serial *Mycological Notes*, Mr. C. G. Lloyd figures several species of *Scleroderma*, *Geaster*, and *Mycenastrum*.

Dr. Thaxter's epoch-marking work on Laboulbeniaceæ furnishes the text for a popular article by Mr. Massee in the November number of the *Journal of the Quekett Microscopical Club*.

The genus *Fusarium*, which includes several species growing on dead animal matter of various sorts, receives an interesting addition under the name *F. equinum*, described in *Science* of December 6 by Növgaard as occurring in the hair follicles and sebaceous glands of horses in Oregon.

A monograph of the genus *Aspergillus*, by Wehmer, is separately published from the *Mémoires de la Société de Physique et d'Histoire Naturelle de Genève*, Vol. XXXIII.

In the *Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club* for December, Professor Arthur publishes descriptions of a considerable number of new Uredineæ.

The effects of *Rhizoctonia* on the potato plant are discussed in *Science* for December 6, by F. M. Rolfs.

The fungi causing spot diseases of the cherry, etc., are discussed in an illustrated article by Aderhold in the December number of *Landwirtschaftliche Jahrbücher*.

Leaf diseases of the currant are considered by Stewart and Eustace in *Bulletin No. 199 of the New York Experiment Station*.

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#### PETROGRAPHY.

**"Perknite," a New Rock Term.** — Turner,<sup>1</sup> in a recent article, suggests the use of the term "perknite" as the designation of coarse-grained lime-magnesia rocks composed essentially of monoclinic

<sup>1</sup> *Journ. Geol.*, vol. ix (1901), p. 507.

pyroxenes and amphiboles. The group of the perknites would include pyroxenites, hornblendites, and hornblende-pyroxene aggregates. It would include also websterites and similar aggregates in which monoclinic amphiboloids predominate. The augitites and some of the hornblende-picrites are the corresponding effusive types. Analyses of some of the author's characteristic perknites follow :

	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	FeO	MgO	CaO	Na <sub>2</sub> O	K <sub>2</sub> O	H <sub>2</sub> O	Various
I.	46.28				19.54	9.91	2.21	1.89		
II.	48.04	7.82	2.01	9.32	13.33	13.01	.69	.48	3.07	2.74 = 99.51
III.	48.63	5.32	2.91	3.90	21.79	13.04	.34	.23	2.81	1.16 = 100.13
IV.	50.80	3.40	1.39	8.11	22.77	12.31	tr	tr	.52	.73 = 100.03
V.	53.25	2.80	.69	5.93	19.91	16.22	.19	tr	.29	.70 = 99.98
VI.	53.21	1.94	1.44	7.92	20.78	13.12	.11	.07	1.01	.87 = 100.47

- I. Hornblendite. Dyke near Silver Peak Village, Esmeralda County, Cal.
- II. Amphibole-pyroxene rock. Abundant in Mariposa County, Cal.
- III. Perknite (peridotite). Belchertown, Mass.
- IV. Pyroxenite. Johnny Cake Road, Baltimore, Md.
- V. Websterite. Mt. Diablo, Cal.
- VI. Websterite. Oakwood, Cecil County, Md.

**Shonkin Sag; A Study in Differentiation.**—Shonkin Sag is a flat laccolite rising from the plains southeast of the Highwood Mountains, Montana. It has afforded Weed and Pirsson<sup>1</sup> excellent opportunities for the study of the differentiation of a magma in place, since it is dissected by a stream valley formerly occupied by a branch of the Missouri River. Examination of the sections exposed to view indicate that the igneous portion of the laccolite consists of concentric shells of leucite-basalt, skonkinite, a transition rock composed of groups of large augite crystals and long slender foils of biotite with white feldspathic material between, and syenite, with the last-named rock in the center. The various rock types grade into one another without discernible breaks between them. The facts suggest to the authors "that the body of the magma forming the laccolite must have been injected as a whole, in a homogeneous condition, and that the rearrangement and formation of the various parts followed within the mass itself. . . . The first stages of cooling and crystallization against the outer envelope of sedimentary rocks was relatively more rapid than that affecting the inner portion, and resulted in producing the outer porphyritic shell." There was, further, a gradual withdrawal and concentration of feldspathic material toward the inner portion of the mass and an enrichment of the outer zone with lime, iron, and magnesia, thus producing the concentric arrangement of the rock types.

<sup>1</sup> *Amer. Journ. Sci.*, vol. xii (1901), p. 1.